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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1939.

J. M. WATT, M.D., D.R.C.O.G., D.C.H., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Ratcliffe, Printer, Rotherham.

Rotherham Rural District Council.

Staff :

Medical Officer of Health : J. M. WATT, M D , D.R.C.O.G., D C H ,
D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector : J F HEATH. M.R.S.I., Meat Certif.
M.I.P.C., M.S.I.A.

First Sanitary Inspector : R. J. WHITE, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Second Sanitary Inspector : BASIL HENSON.

Clerk : T H. ASTON.

Clerk : Miss. G. M. COUSENS

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

ROTHERHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

Area (acres)	28,739
Population—1931 Census (corrected)	38,734
Population (Estimated 31st December, 1939)	41,156
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1931)	8,673
Number of Persons per House (Census 1931)	4.5
Number of Families or separate Occupiers (1931)	9,206

The population of the district is comprised chiefly of those employed in Coal Mining, Metal Works and Agriculture.

Years	1939	1938	Mean of 1933—37	Mean of 1928—32
Population (Registrar General, 30th June)	40,603	39,830	40,785	39,138
Number of Inhabited Houses (31st Dec.)	11,114	10,646	10,241	8,687
Rateable Value	£ 153,520	147,646	146,626	193,740
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£ 593	541	550	718
BIRTHS—Number	845	761	794	834
Rate per 1,000 population	20.8	19.1	19.4	21.4
Ditto England and Wales	15.0	15.1	14.7	16.1
Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Infants born	38	46	35	40
DEATHS—Number	385	365	424	403
Nett Rate per 1,000 population	9.5	9.2	10.4	10.3
Corrected Rate for age and sex, etc.	11.7	11.4	12.5	11.1
Death Rate .. England and Wales	12.1	11.6	12.1	12.2
INFANTILE MORTALITY—per 1,000 Births	54	59	75	80
England and Wales	50	53	59	66
Illegitimate Infants	31	—	106	126
DEATHS under 1 year	46	45	59	66
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH—				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14	14	13	19
"Other" Tuberculosis	4	4	4	6
Influenza	5	3	13	12
Pneumonia	29	23	35	37
Bronchitis	12	8	15	22
Cancer	56	53	49	38
Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	20	22	19	18
Heart Disease	76	72	73	54
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	3	7	11	6
Seven principal "Zymotic" Diseases	13	7	18	30

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS—continued.

	Years..	1939	1938	Mean of 1933—37	Mean of 1928—32
DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FROM—					
Pulmonary Tuberculosis		0.34	0.35	0.47	0.48
“ Other ” Tuberculosis		0.10	0.10	0.09	0.16
Seven principal “ Zymotic ” Diseases ..		0.32	0.18	0.45	0.76
Influenza		0.12	0.07	0.31	0.31
Pneumonia		0.71	0.58	0.86	0.94
Bronchitis		0.29	0.20	0.38	0.55
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs..		0.05	0.15	0.06	0.12
Cancer		1.37	1.33	1.21	0.98
INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Cases Notified.					
Small Pox		—	—	—	4
Diphtheria		18	38	53	72
Scarlet Fever		101	57	177	103
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..		—	—	1	3
Erysipelas		11	15	19	20
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		3	3	1	4
Puerperal Pyrexia		7	7	4	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis		23	21	39	68
“ Other ” Tuberculosis		8	9	15	38
INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Attack Rates per 1000 pop					
Diphtheria		0.44	0.95	1.29	1.86
Scarlet Fever		2.48	1.43	4.30	2.64
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..		—	—	0.02	0.09
Erysipelas		0.27	0.38	0.47	0.50
Puerperal Pyrexia		0.17	0.18	0.10	0.10
Pulmonary Tuberculosis		0.56	0.53	0.96	1.73
“ Other ” Tuberculosis		0.20	0.23	0.36	0.98
NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM—					
Diphtheria		1	1	6	10
Scarlet Fever		—	—	1	1
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..		—	—	..	1
Erysipelas		—	—	..	1
Measles		1	2	2	8
Whooping Cough		5	1	3	4
DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FROM—					
Diphtheria		0.02	0.02	0.14	0.27
Scarlet Fever		—	—	0.03	0.03
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..		—	—	..	0.03
Erysipelas		—	—	0.01	0.01
Measles		0.02	0.05	0.05	0.19
Whooping Cough		0.12	0.02	0.08	0.11
PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS PER CASES NOTIFIED—					
Diphtheria		5.5	2.6	10.8	18.3
Scarlet Fever		—	—	0.6	0.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..		—	—	6.7	30.7

TABLE I.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates,
and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1939.

				Rotherham Rural District	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County	
Rates per 1,000 Population.									
BIRTHS :—									
Live	...	...	...	20·8	15·0	14·8	15·6	12·3
Still	...	...	...	0·82	0·59	0·59	0·57	0·44
DEATHS :									
All Causes	...	...	...	9·5	12·1	12·0	11·2	11·9
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	}			—	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	
Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	0·02	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·00
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	—	0·01	0·00	0·00	0·00
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0·12	0·03	0·03	0·02	0·03
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0·02	0·05	0·05	0·04	0·02
Influenza	...	...	...	0·12	0·21	0·19	0·20	0·18
NOTIFICATIONS :									
Smallpox	...	...	...	—	0·00	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	2·48	1·89	1·96	1·78	1·53
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0·44	1·14	1·21	1·16	0·98
Enteric fever	...	...	...	—	0·04	0·03	0·04	0·03
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0·27	0·34	0·40	0·31	0·37
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1·13	1·02	1·21	0·89	0·99
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.									
Deaths under 1 year of age				54	50	53	40	48	
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age				7·1	4·6	6·3	3·0	8·2	
MATERNAL MORTALITY :									
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	1·18	0·77	Not available		
Others	...	...	...	1·18	2·16			
Total	...	...	...	2·36	2·93			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)									
MATERNAL MORTALITY :									
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	1·14	0·74	Not available		
Others	...	...	...	1·14	2·08			
Total	...	...	...	2·28	2·82			
NOTIFICATIONS :									
Puerperal Fever	...	}			—	14·35	17·26	12·99	{ 3·31 14·22
Puerperal Pyrexia	...				7·97				

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	M.	F.	
LIVE BIRTHS	(Legitimate 813	408	405	BirthRate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population . 20·8.
	(Illegitimate ... 32	17	15	
STILL-BIRTHS	(Legitimate ... 32	18	14	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 36·4.
	(Illegitimate ... 1	1	—	
DEATHS	... .385	201	184.	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 9·5.

Deaths from puerperal causes—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	... 1	1·14
Other Puerperal causes	.. 1	1·14
	—	—
Total ..	2	2·28
	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	... ..	54
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	... ..	55
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births...	... ..	31

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	... ..	56
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	... ..	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	... ..	5
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	... ..	6

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1939, for Nuisances	... ..	2,163.
Nuisances found in 1939	... ..	1,556.
Nuisances in hand end of 1938	... ..	15.
Total requiring abatement	... ..	1,571.
Abated during 1939	... ..	1,553.
Notices served—Informal, 85+120 letters.		

Do. Statutory, Nil.

Informal Notices complied with, 70.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No. of houses not connected to sewers, 560.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. of Privies with open middens, 12.

Number of Privies with covered middens, 340.

Number of Pan Closets, 163.

Approximate number of Water Closets, 10,499

Number of privies reconstructed as Water Closets, 21

Number of Additional Closets provided for old property, 18.

Number of Closets constructed for new houses—

(W.C.'s) 426.

(Pan Closets) 2.

SCAVENGING.

Total Annual cost of collection and disposal of
refuse and the contents of cesspools... £9,240/3/4

WATER SUPPLY.

Number of Dwelling Houses on public supply .. 11,044

Number of Chemical Examinations... .. 2

Results—1 satisfactory ; 1 unsatisfactory.

Number of Bacteriological Examinations ... 32

Results—19 satisfactory ; 13 unsatisfactory.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of Milk Samples taken for analysis .. 114

Number found Adulterated 12

Number of Cowkeepers in the District .. 155

Total Number of Cowsheds 212

Number of Milk Cows 1,370

Number of Cowshed Inspections 347

Number of Wholesale Traders Registered ... 114

Number of Retail Milk Sellers Registered ... 185

MILK (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.

Number of Licences in force in area for the production			
of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	..	...	1
"Accredited" Milk	...	..	16
Number of Samples of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk			
examined Bacteriologically	...	.	5
Results—4 satisfactory ; 1 unsatisfactory.			
Number of Samples of "Accredited" Milk examined			
Bacteriologically	..	..	52
Results—45 Satisfactory ; 7 Unsatisfactory.			

MEAT INSPECTION.

Number of Private Slaughter-houses	...	..	15
Number Licensed	...	...	15
Total Slaughter-house Inspections	..	...	568
Number of seizures of Unsound Food	...	...	81
Total Weight	..	...	5,530 lbs.


OTHER FOODS.

Number of Bakehouses in District	...	...	8
Total Number of Inspections...	...	...	41

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the Year 1939 the Number of Children Immunised in the District was 221.

Of this number 29 were immunised by private practitioners.



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TABLE C.

ROTTERHAM RURAL

Sanitary District.

YEAR 1939.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1939 for Nuisances only ..2163.... (Not including Housing Inspections)
 Nuisances found in 19391556....) Total needing abatement ..1571.....
 Nuisances in hand, end of 193815....) Abated during 19391553.....
 Outstanding end of 193918.....

Notices served, Informal 85 plus 120 Letters. Complied with70...
 " " StatutoryNil..... " "Nil...
 Total number of Summonses or other legal proceedingsNil.....

Regulated Buildings, Trades, etc.	No. in District	No. on Register	Total No. of Ins- pections made.	General Conditions.	Legal Proceedings (if any)	Have the Council de- clared any other processes to be offer- sive trades?
Common Lodging Houses	Nil	.....	.....	.....
Houses let in Lodgings	Nil	.....	.....	.....
Canal Boats	Nil	(Exempted by Ministry of Health 5/3/1921) ..	.....	.....No.....
Knackers' Yards	Nil	.....	.....	.....
Tents, Vans and Sheds	....4....	.....	59	.....	.....	.....
Offensive Trades (Please specify kind)	Nil	.....	.....	.....

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Particulars of any sewer extensions during 1939 ..Birtles Estate, Aston..(237 yards 9" sewer).....
 Details of any portion of district still requiring:-
 (a) Sewering Aston, Hooker, Brampton Bierlow, Dalton Magna, Hooton Leir, Hooton Roberts,
Ravenfield Village, Old Thrybergh, Uley, Carr, Thurgate (b) Improvement of defective sewers Catcliffe (Ongreave Road).....
 No. of houses not connected to sewers560.....
 Sewage Disposal Works.

Particulars of any extensions made during 1939
 Any inadequacy of sewage disposal works? ...Yes. At Aston, Fence, Swallownest, Catcliffe and Whiston.....
 Any complaint from West Riding Rivers Board? ...Yes (4) Dealt with.....

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. of Privies with open middens12..... No. of Pail or Tub Closets163.....
 " " with covered middens340..... No. of water closets10,499..... Waste-water closets ..Nil.....
 " " reconstructed during 1939 - (a) as w.c's21..... (b) OtherNil.....
 " Closets, other than Privies, reconstructed during 1939 as w.c'sNil.....
 " additional Closets provided for old property in 1939 as (a) w.c's18..... (b) OtherNil.....
 " Closets constructed in 1939 for new houses (a) w.c's426..... (b) Other 2 Pail Closets.....
 Any special action being taken by Council to secure conversion of privies, waste-water closets and pails to w.c. system.
 If so, what? ..Conversions to water carriage system are carried out wherever possible.....

SCAVENGING.

Is public scavenging in operation throughout the whole district?Yes.....
 If not, is it in operation in any part of the area? If so, please specify part or parts
 How is refuse disposed of?
 1. Destruction% If tipping is in operation, Total annual cost of collection
 2. Tipping90.....% is it on the controlled system? and disposal of refuse £9,240.- 3 - 4,
 3. Farmers10.....%Yes..... and the contents of cesspools.
 Particulars of any extension or improvement in the service during the year

WATER SUPPLY.

Source of supply ...See attached sheet..... By whom distributed ...See attached sheet.....
 No. of dwelling houses on public supply ..11,044. Any extension of supply during the year? ...See attached sheet.....
 Has supply been satisfactory?Yes..... (a) In qualityYes..... (b) In quantityYes.....
 No. of examinations made during the year (a) chemical ...2... ResultSatisfactory..... (b) bacteriological...32... ResultSatisfactory.....
 Have any supplies been restricted or closed, if so, where?No.....

MILK SUPPLY.

No. of Milk samples taken by officers of local authority for analysis under
 the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and Food and Drugs Act, 1938Nil.....
 No. found adulteratedNil.. No. of ProsecutionsNil...
 No. of samples of ordinary milk taken by officers of local authority for:- (a) Methylene blue testNil.....
 (b) Presence of tuberculosisNil.....
 Any special examination of milk for dirt, e.g., sedimentation test? ...Yes..11.....
 Any instance of disease attributed to milk during 1939No.....
 No. of cowsheds in district ..155. No. registered ..155. Total No. of cowsheds ..212..... Total No. of milk cows ..1,370.....
 Total No. of cowsheds inspected during the year ..128. Total No. of cowshed inspections ..347..
 No. of wholesale traders registered ..114 No. of retail milk sellers registered ..185. Have any retailers been
 removed from the register? ...Yes..
 Observations as to structural conditions, cleanliness and methods of production and handling of milk
 Methods used in the production and handling of milk continue to improve.....

MILK SUPPLY (Contd.).

Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936 and 1938.

	No. Licences in force in area for:-	Samples of designated milks examined bacteriologically:-			(d) No. of Licences in force for bottling "Tuberculin Tested" or "Accredited" milk, other than at place of production ... Nil.....
		No. satis- factory.	No. unsatis- factory.	Total.	
(a) Production of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	1	4	1	5	
(b) " " "Accredited" Milk	16	45	7	52	
(c) In respect of Pasteurising plants	Nil	1	Nil	1	

MEAT INSPECTION.

Any public abattoir in district?	No.	
Total No. of private slaughterhouses	15	made up of ----- registered and 15 licensed.
No. unsatisfactory either as regards structure, position or in other respects	Nil	
No. of times each slaughterhouse inspected	35	Total inspections 568
No. of seizures of unsound food	81	Total weight 5,530 lbs. No. of Prosecutions Nil

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK) REGULATIONS, 1924.

Heat Marking: Is scheme in force under above?	No.	If so, give particulars of action under same
---	-----	--

OTHER FOODS.

No. of samples (other than milk) taken by officers of L.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and Food and Drugs Act, 1938.	Nil	SCHOOLS. Statutory Medical Inspection is carried out by the County Education Authority in most of the Districts, but that does not relieve the M.O.H. of his duties in regard to sanitation and the prevention of infectious outbreaks in connection with Schools.
No. found adulterated	Nil	No. of Prosecutions Nil
No. of Bakehouses in district	8	Total inspections 41
Are any of bakehouses underground, if so, how many?	No	No. of Schools in District 26. No. visited by M.O.H. 26
		Action taken Sanitary conditions &c. reported on
		Schools closed by M.O.H.
		General Sanitary Conditions Reported on

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No. of smoke observations each of 30 minutes duration taken during 1939		SHOPS ACT, 1934, Sections 10 and 13 (3). No. of visits paid under the above Act during 1939 15
No. of above showing excessive emission of black smoke		Unsatisfactory conditions found 1 Remedied 1
No. of cautions issued		WENTS, VANS, SHEDS, etc. No. in District 4
No. of statutory notices issued		Is this class of dwelling showing signs of increase? No
No. of prosecutions		Have Council made byelaws under Section 268(4), Public Health Act, 1936? No
All duties carried out by the Sheffield, Rotherham & District Smoke Abatement Committee.		

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Are there in the district:-	
Any public swimming baths or pools? No. Any privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public? No	
If so, give brief particulars of each and state what action is taken to ensure satisfactory condition of the water.	
Any samples of bath waters examined in 1939, apart from those submitted to the County Bacteriological Laboratory?	None.
If so, please give particulars	

BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS in force in District.

Please give list of Byelaws and Regulations in force and date of adoption in each case		INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES. Diseases specially prevalent in 1939 None
Cleansing of Footways & Pavements. 27/1/1877	New Streets & Buildings. 21/2/1925	State months
Scavenging. do.	Alteration of Buildings. do.	Any diseases specially added to notifiable list? Measles & Whooping Cough
Prevention of Nuisances. do.	Slaughterhouses. 8/3/1905	Any influences threatening the health of the District?
Common Lodging Houses. do.		None.

MORTUARIES. What accommodation

(a) for accidents 1. Catcliffe, 1. Dalton & 1. Swallownest		SANITARY STAFF. What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H? £432
(b) for infectious cases other than at hospital	None	Name of Sanitary Annual Salary as Other appointments such other Inspector. J.F. HEATH. Sanitary held. appoint- Inspector. J.F. HEATH. Cleansing Superintendent, ments. Meat & Housing Inspector. £Nil
(c) for other cases		
(d) for post mortem examinations (Catcliffe, 1. Dalton, & 1. Swallownest)		
Any suggestions by M.O.H. 2 further mortuaries should be erec ted. One at Thurcroft and one at Brampton Bierlow.		Any Assistants? Yes. 2. Is Staff sufficient? No
		Does M.O.H. receive copies of Memos. and Circulars distributed by Ministry of Health? Yes.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS ON ANY SUBJECTS (Please attach copy).

SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS as to Sanitary requirements of District, suggestions of M.O.H., and extended notes on any of the foregoing entries. Any suggestions as to need for County Clinics or Dispensaries, or as to existing Clinics or Dispensaries.

None.

